

FISCAL NOTE

HB 663 - SB 547

February 28, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Prohibits any person from administering to a student in a public elementary or secondary school, any psychotropic drug unless the school has obtained authorization from the student's attending physician who has determined a legitimate medical need to the pupil.
- Administration of authorized medication shall be carried out only by a registered nurse or a licensed physician assigned to the student's school. In the event the assigned nurse or physician is unavailable, such medication may be administered by a school employee who has volunteered to administer such medication and who has received training prescribed by the Department of Health.
- The Departments of Health and Education shall adopt rules and regulations to govern the administration of psychotropic drugs to pupils in public schools consistent with this act.
- Public schools are required to make an annual report to the Departments of Health and Education on all students receiving psychotropic drugs.
- The Departments of Health and Education shall prepare a joint annual report to be made to the Committees on Education and General Welfare, Health and Human Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Education and Health and Human Resources of the House of Representatives.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes:

- any costs associated with the development of rules and regulations and reporting annually to the General Assembly by the Departments of Health and Education are estimated to be not significant and can be absorbed within existing resources.
- any costs of the LEAs associated with obtaining the necessary consent forms for the administration of psychotropic drugs, maintaining a record keeping system, and making an annual report to the Departments of Health and Education on all students receiving such drugs, is estimated to be not significant and can be absorbed within existing resources.
- The Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of Education, will establish guidelines relative to procedures in a school setting to be used by Registered Nurses employed by or contracted with the LEA in training volunteers to administer psychotropic drugs to students. Therefore, it is estimated that any costs associated with using school nurses to train volunteers will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director